



# *Proclamation*

*Presented*

## **In Recognition of the Month of the Young Adolescent**

**WHEREAS**, the Month of the Young Adolescent is an annual international collaborative effort of education, health and youth-oriented organizations; initiated by the National Middle School Association (NMSA), Month of the Young Adolescent brings together a wide range of organizations to focus on the needs of this important age group, ages 10-15; and

**WHEREAS**, the Month of the Young Adolescent will focus on the developmental needs and characteristics of young adolescents, and how parenting practices, health conditions, and educational programs can have a positive influence for this age group; and

**WHEREAS**, the Month of the Young Adolescent will promote four key messages throughout the month of October that the:

- Importance of parents being knowledgeable about young adolescents and being actively involved in their lives has a great impact on their growth;
- Understanding that healthy bodies plus healthy minds equal healthy young adolescents;
- Realization that the education young adolescents experience during this formative period of life will, in large measure, determine the future of all citizens;
- Knowledge that every young adolescent should have the opportunity to pursue his or her dreams and aspirations, and post-secondary education should be a possibility for all; and

**WHEREAS**, the Month of the Young Adolescent provides awareness about the period of early adolescence; generally between the ages of 10 and 15, when young individuals leave childhood and move toward full adolescence is when they make major decisions about their values, standards, attitudes and personal beliefs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Month of the Young Adolescent affords understanding about the need for a strong educational partnerships among the school, parents, students, and community members; and

**WHEREAS**, the Month of the Young Adolescent will be recognized by the National Middle School Association (NMSA) throughout the month of October, 2011;

**THEREFORE I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, BRIAN SCHATZ, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim the month of October, 2011 as**

## **"MONTH OF THE YOUNG ADOLESCENT"**

in Hawai'i and urge the people of the Aloha State in commending the National Middle School Association for inspiring 10-15 year-olds to live healthy lifestyles and make positive choices to become successful adults.

**DONE** at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this fourteenth day of September, 2011.



**NEIL ABERCROMBIE**  
Governor, State of Hawai'i



**BRIAN SCHATZ**  
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i